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Minutes

Council on Academic Affairs

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MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

January 28, 1982

The meeting was held at 2 p.m., January 28, 1982, in the Tuscola Room of the University Union.

Members present: Dr. Bartling, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Doughty, Ms. Susan T. Grah, Dr. Hennings, Ms. Ann Hoy, Dr. Kantner, Mrs. Lasky, Dr. Miess, Dr. Murray, Mr. Russ Robb, Dr. Don Rogers, and Vice President Rives.

Visitors: Dr. Soderberg, Dean Johnson, Mr. Campbell, Dr. Wholstein, Dr. Whitley, Dean Laible, and an Eastern News reporter.

I. Welcome.

Dr. Bartling introduced and welcomed Ms. Susan T. Grah as a new student member.

II. Minutes of January 21.

The minutes were approved with the addition to indicate that Ms. Grah was a visitor.

III. Communications.

1. From Vice President Rives - Executive Officer's Report - 1/27/82.
2. From Senior Seminar Committee - Report - 1/27/82.
3. From Vice President Rives - Proposed Honors Council - 1/28/82.
4. From Vice President Rives - Copy of Deans' List for Fall 1981 - 1/19/82.
5. From Robert Glover - Appointment of Susan T. Grah as student member - 1/28/82.

IV. Executive Officer's Report.

1. Dr. Rives distributed the Deans' List for Fall 1981 and explained the list.
2. Dr. Rives presented a proposed Honors Council.
3. Changes approved:

SPE 3400 - deleted end of Spring Semester 1982.

HIS 3300 - Change to (2-0-2) or (3-0-3) - (Credit determined by the topic used.) - effective Fall 1982.

PLS 3903 - Change title to Public Policy and the Sexes - effective Fall 1982.

Note: The effective date of the action taken on 12/10/81 concerning acceptance of credit for other work, is changed for students entering Summer 1982 and thereafter.

Dr. Rogers moved and Dr. Murray seconded the motion to approve the proposed Honors Council. Voting will be later.

V. BOG Annual Program Review - (Agenda Item 82-1).

Dr. Rives spoke concerning the program review, saying that Eastern should take a realistic view of the various programs in making recommendations. Voting on the motion made at the last meeting resulted in the motion passing with the following votes:

Yes - Bartling, Buchanan, Doughty, Hennings, Hoy, Kantner, Lasky, Miess, Murray, Robb, Rogers
Abstain - Grah

This action approved the resolution as spelled out in the 1/21/82 minutes and recommended S.Q. for the following majors and options:

B.S. Afro-American Studies
B.S. Botany

the members of the Committee for their excellent work. Vice President Rives expressed his appreciation to the Committee members. He suggested that the CAA take action on the issue that the senior seminar be a single 2 s.h. experience. Dr. Doughty moved and Dr. Hennings seconded the motion to accept the report of the Committee. Voting will be later. The report is attached to these minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Mary McElwee
Secretary

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

(The meeting will be on call.)

Agenda:

- +*81-45. Proposed policy for academic dismissal.
- *81-52. Proposed statement on ACT/SAT Records for Beginning Freshmen.
- *Senior Seminar Report.
- *Proposed Honors Council.

+Tabled.

*Motion on floor.

Preliminary Report, January 1982
Senior Seminar at Eastern Illinois University

Definition

The Senior Seminar at Eastern Illinois University is designed to be a cross-disciplinary culminating experience that will provide students with an opportunity to apply concepts and use skills developed over their undergraduate years. Topics of major significance, e.g., Technology and Society, Third World Development, The Artist as Pioneer, etc. will be analyzed, discussed, and written about in one required two-semester-hour seminar. Completion of the course is among the requirements for award of the baccalaureate degree.

Instructors will be specifically responsible for an open approach to the information presented and its role in society, especially interrelationships with other areas. Assignments must be developed with care and attention to the content of the course. Discussions and written assignments must be developed with the same concern. It is expected that a variety of approaches will be used in pursuing the Senior Seminar topic(s).

Instructors should integrate a wide variety of resources from within the university as well as from without, should maintain communications with the program in general and coordinate, whenever possible, activities with other sections as to guests, speakers, etc.

Instructors must develop and maintain an evaluation process to evaluate fairly the work of each student and to publish for distribution at the initial meeting the format and requirements of the course as to attendance, major assignments, activities, and the grade-evaluation system.

Students participating in senior seminar should critique readings, speakers and films by writing short position papers and enter in the class discussion. A key ingredient for the process should be the experience students will get in synthesis, analysis and refinement of ideas/concepts and practice in oral and written communication.

Rationale

The purpose of the Senior Seminar series is to broaden the educational experience for seniors using a cross-disciplinary capstone approach. Under the tutelage of an outstanding faculty member from another discipline, students from various disciplines will come together to read, discuss and write about issues of major social and/or intellectual importance.

This type of experience will afford an ideal opportunity for students to assess their particular education in the light of a range of cross-disciplinary concerns which will be available each semester. The exposure to another discipline's viewpoint on an issue as provided by the faculty member, coupled with the interdisciplinary flavor provided by the mixture of students from different disciplines, should provide the ideal atmosphere for broadening views and assessing the applicability as well as the limits of one's training toward the understanding and potential solution of problems which are truly cross-disciplinary in scope.